(b) what are the reasons for lack of interest among the licenced manufacturers;

(c) whether this state of affairs is forcing Government to increase imports of telecommunication equipments;

(d) what are the names of foreign companies, contract value, contract date, delivery schedule and quantity of various types of telecommunication equipments in the case of each order for imports of equipment placed on foreign firms by Government so far since April, 1987; and

(e) what will be the level of dependence of telecommunication equipmen t imports by the end of the Seventh Plan period and what steps are being taken to reduce imports to save precious foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): (a) and (b) Out of 75 letters of intant issued to private manufacturers for manufacture of telecommunication equipments, 29 have been converted into industrial licences. In view of the liberalised policy for industrial licensing, the interest amongst the licensed manufacturers for the manufacture of telecommunications equipment is considered satsifactory.

(c) No, sir.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) The level of dependence on import for telecommunication equipment will be minimum and only be in those areas where indigenous manufacture is not considered viable. Indigenous production has been planned for practically all telecommunication equipment to minimise imports.

Representation of Indian Medical Association for Exempting Life Savings Drug from Tax Net

4575. Shri S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of the Indian Medical Association has requested the Central Government to exempt all the life saving drugs from the tax net and also to make them available to the general public, including the needy poor at subsidised rates; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The Indian Medical Association has represented to the Kelkar Committee that Exicse Duty, Octroi and other Taxes should be removed while fixing the prices of the drugs.

Sales Turnover of Drugs

4576. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3305 given in the

Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ORG provides all India estimate sales and his Ministry is subscribing for ORG and getting the book regularly from the public funds;

(b) if so, what was the sales turnover provided in ORG for the years 1986 and 1987 for Glipizide, Thoridazine, Cephaloridine, Flubiprofen, Oxyedrine Hcl and what sales turnover was taken by Kelkar Committee for these drugs for these years for identification of drugs for category-II;

(c) the names of the drugs which are exempted from price control;

(d) whether his Ministry is monitoring the prices of medicines; and

(e) if so, what were the prices of Clynase, Ildamen, Arflur and Melleril before DPCO, 1987 their present prices and percentage change?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sales turnover is not monitored.

(c) Bulk drugs not enlisted in first and second schedule of DPCO,1987, are exempted from price control.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The required details to the extent available are given in the Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the the formulation	Name of the company	pack size	Earlier Price Rs. P.	Revised price Rs. Ps. (As claimed by the company)	% change
1.	Ildamer 24 mg.	M/s. German Remedies	3x10's	51.72	63.50	22.8
2.	Ildamen 8 mg.	—do—	10 x 10's	70 70	85.50	20.9

Price Fixation of Rifampicin Combination

4577. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 641 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sale of Rifampicin plus INH combination is over Rs. 12 crores per annum;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this medicine is used by the TB patients, the poorest class of society;

(c) the names of non-leader combinations of Rifampicin for which prices have not been fixed as per present MAPE;

(d) what are the reasons for the delay in providing relief to poor people;